

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*In re* Patent

Application of: Brian E. JOSEPH, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/882,096

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Confirmation No.: 7698

Docket No.: 07620048US (1474)

Title: RIB-STIFFENED COMPOSITE STRUCTURE

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY**

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed December 12, 2007 ("Office Action"),

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following

Amendments and Remarks. A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this Reply.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS** begin on page 2.

**REMARKS** begin on page 6.